UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Eastern District of California

Honorable Fredrick E. Clement Bankruptcy Judge

2500 Tulare Street, Fifth Floor Department A, Courtroom 11 Fresno, California

TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 18, 2014

PRE-HEARING DISPOSITIONS

GENERAL DESIGNATIONS

Each pre-hearing disposition is prefaced by the words "Final Ruling," "Tentative Ruling" or "No Tentative Ruling." Except as indicated below, matters designated "Final Ruling" will not be called and counsel need not appear at the hearing on such matters. Matters designated "Tentative Ruling" or "No Tentative Ruling" will be called.

MATTERS RESOLVED BEFORE HEARING

If the court has issued a final ruling on a matter and the parties directly affected by a matter have resolved the matter by stipulation or withdrawal of the motion before the hearing, then the moving party shall, not later than 4:00 p.m. (PST) on the day before the hearing, inform the following persons by telephone that they wish the matter to be dropped from calendar notwithstanding the court's ruling: (1) all other parties directly affected by the motion; and (2) Kathy Torres, Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Fredrick E. Clement, at (559) 499-5860.

ERRORS IN FINAL RULINGS

If a party believes that a final ruling contains an error that would, if reflected in the order or judgment, warrant a motion under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 52(b), 59(e) or 60, as incorporated by Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, 7052, 9023 and 9024, then the party affected by such error shall, not later than 4:00 p.m. (PST) on the day before the hearing, inform the following persons by telephone that they wish the matter either to be called or dropped from calendar, as appropriate, notwithstanding the court's ruling: (1) all other parties directly affected by the motion; and (2) Kathy Torres, Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Fredrick E. Clement, at (559) 499-5860. Absent such a timely request, a matter designated "Final Ruling" will not be called. 1. <u>14-14715</u>-A-7 ANTONIO CORTEZ ANTONIO CORTEZ/MV WILLIAM ROMAINE/Atty. for dbt. MOTION FOR WAIVER OF THE CHAPTER 7 FILING FEE OR OTHER FEE 9-24-14 [<u>5</u>]

Final Ruling

The matter resolved by order issued November 17, 2014, no appearance is necessary.

2. 14-15016-A-7 KRISTEE GARCIA

MOTION FOR WAIVER OF THE CHAPTER 7 FILING FEE OR OTHER FEE 10-13-14 [5]

KRISTEE GARCIA/MV

ROSALINA NUNEZ/Atty. for dbt. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

Final Ruling

The matter resolved by order issued November 17, 2014, no appearance is necessary.

3.	<u>13–11829</u> –A–7 TRINIDAD CORTEZ	MOTION TO COMPROMISE
	RH-3	CONTROVERSY/APPROVE SETTLEMENT
	PETER FEAR/MV	AGREEMENT WITH TRINIDAD CORTEZ 10-23-14 [<u>29</u>]
TIMOTHY SPRINGER/Atty. for dbt. ROBERT HAWKINS/Atty. for mv.		

No tentative ruling.

4. <u>14-14432</u>-A-7 JOSE GARCIA PFT-1 OPPOSITION RE: TRUSTEE'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SEC. 341(A) MEETING OF CREDITORS 10-14-14 [<u>13</u>]

THOMAS GILLIS/Atty. for dbt.

Tentative Ruling

Motion: Dismiss Case and Extend Trustee's Deadlines Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required or case dismissed without hearing Disposition: Conditionally denied in part, granted in part Order: Civil minute order

The Chapter 7 trustee has filed a Motion to Dismiss for Failure to Appear at the § 341(a) Meeting of Creditors and Motion to Extend

Deadlines for Filing Objections to Discharge. The debtor opposes the motion.

DISMISSAL

Chapter 7 debtors shall attend the § 341(a) meeting of creditors. 11 U.S.C. § 343. A continuing failure to attend this meeting is cause for dismissal of the case. See 11 U.S.C. §§ 105(a), 343, 707(a); see also In re Nordblad, No. 2:13-bk-14562-RK, 2013 WL 3049227, at *2 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. June 17, 2013).

The court finds that the debtor has failed to appear at the first date set for the meeting of creditors. Because the debtor's failure to attend the required § 341 creditors' meeting has occurred only once, the court will not dismiss the case provided the debtor appears at the continued date of the creditor's meeting. This means that the court's denial of the motion to dismiss is subject to the condition that the debtor attend the continued meeting of creditors. But if the debtor does not appear at the continued meeting of creditors, the case will be dismissed on trustee's declaration without further notice or hearing.

EXTENSION OF DEADLINES

The court will grant the motion in part to the extent it requests extension of the trustee's deadlines to object to discharge and to dismiss the case for abuse, other than presumed abuse. Such deadlines will be extended so that they run from the next continued date of the § 341(a) meeting of creditors rather than the first date set for the meeting of creditors. The following deadlines are extended to 60 days after the next continued date of the creditors' meeting: (1) the trustee's deadline for objecting to discharge under § 727, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4004(a); and (2) the trustee's deadline for bringing a motion to dismiss under § 707(b) or (c) for abuse, other than presumed abuse, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1017(e).

CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court will issue a minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are stated in the Civil Minutes of the hearing.

The trustee's Motion to Dismiss for Failure to Appear at § 341(a) Meeting of Creditors and Motion to Extend the Deadlines for Filing Objections to Discharge and Motions to Dismiss having been presented to the court, and upon review of the pleadings, evidence, arguments of counsel, and good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that the Motion to Dismiss is denied on the condition that the debtor attend the continued § 341(a) meeting of creditors scheduled for December 5, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. But if the debtor does not appear at this continued meeting, the case will be dismissed on trustee's declaration without further notice or hearing.

IT IS ALSO ORDERED that following deadlines shall be extended to 60 days after the continued date of the creditors' meeting: (1) the trustee's deadline for objecting to discharge under § 727, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4004(a); and (2) the trustee's deadline for bringing a

motion to dismiss under § 707(b) or (c) for abuse, other than presumed abuse, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1017(e).

5. <u>14-12743</u>-A-7 JOSE VASQUEZ JES-1 JAMES SALVEN/MV AGREEMENT

MOTION TO COMPROMISE CONTROVERSY/APPROVE SETTLEMENT

 $10 - 17 - 14 \left[\frac{20}{20}\right]$

Final Ruling

Motion: Approve Compromise or Settlement of Controversy Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required Disposition: Granted Order: Prepared by moving party

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, *incorporated by* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. *TeleVideo Sys.*, *Inc.* v. *Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

In determining whether to approve a compromise under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9019, the court determines whether the compromise was negotiated in good faith and whether the party proposing the compromise reasonably believes that the compromise is the best that can be negotiated under the facts. In re A & C Props., 784 F.2d 1377, 1381 (9th Cir. 1982). More than mere good faith negotiation of a compromise is required. The court must also find that the compromise is fair and equitable. Id. "Fair and equitable" involves a consideration of four factors: (i) the probability of success in the litigation; (ii) the difficulties to be encountered in collection; (iii) the complexity of the litigation, and expense, delay and inconvenience necessarily attendant to litigation; and (iv) the paramount interest of creditors and a proper deference to the creditors' expressed wishes, if any. Id. The party proposing the compromise is fair and equitable and should be approved. Id.

Based on the motion and supporting papers, the court finds that the compromise is fair and equitable considering the relevant A & C Properties factors. The compromise will be approved.

6. $\frac{14-14443}{PFT-1}$ -A-7 HARJINDER MANDAIR

OPPOSITION RE: TRUSTEE'S MOTION TO DISMISS FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SEC. 341(A) MEETING OF CREDITORS 10-14-14 [21]

RATTAN DEV DHALIWAL/Atty. for dbt.

Tentative Ruling

Motion: Dismiss Case and Extend Trustee's Deadlines Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required or case dismissed without hearing Disposition: Conditionally denied in part, granted in part Order: Civil minute order

The Chapter 7 trustee has filed a Motion to Dismiss for Failure to Appear at the § 341(a) Meeting of Creditors and Motion to Extend Deadlines for Filing Objections to Discharge. The debtor opposes the motion.

DISMISSAL

Chapter 7 debtors shall attend the § 341(a) meeting of creditors. 11 U.S.C. § 343. A continuing failure to attend this meeting is cause for dismissal of the case. See 11 U.S.C. §§ 105(a), 343, 707(a); see also In re Nordblad, No. 2:13-bk-14562-RK, 2013 WL 3049227, at *2 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. June 17, 2013).

The court finds that the debtor has failed to appear at the first date set for the meeting of creditors. Because the debtor's failure to attend the required § 341 creditors' meeting has occurred only once, the court will not dismiss the case provided the debtor appears at the continued date of the creditor's meeting. This means that the court's denial of the motion to dismiss is subject to the condition that the debtor attend the continued meeting of creditors. But if the debtor does not appear at the continued meeting of creditors, the case will be dismissed on trustee's declaration without further notice or hearing.

EXTENSION OF DEADLINES

The court will grant the motion in part to the extent it requests extension of the trustee's deadlines to object to discharge and to dismiss the case for abuse, other than presumed abuse. Such deadlines will be extended so that they run from the next continued date of the § 341(a) meeting of creditors rather than the first date set for the meeting of creditors. The following deadlines are extended to 60 days after the next continued date of the creditors' meeting: (1) the trustee's deadline for objecting to discharge under § 727, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4004(a); and (2) the trustee's deadline for bringing a motion to dismiss under § 707(b) or (c) for abuse, other than presumed abuse, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1017(e).

CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court will issue a minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are stated in the Civil Minutes of the hearing.

The trustee's Motion to Dismiss for Failure to Appear at § 341(a) Meeting of Creditors and Motion to Extend the Deadlines for Filing Objections to Discharge and Motions to Dismiss having been presented to the court, and upon review of the pleadings, evidence, arguments of counsel, and good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that the Motion to Dismiss is denied on the condition that the debtor attend the continued § 341(a) meeting of creditors scheduled for December 5, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. But if the debtor does not appear at this continued meeting, the case will be dismissed on trustee's declaration without further notice or hearing.

IT IS ALSO ORDERED that following deadlines shall be extended to 60 days after the continued date of the creditors' meeting: (1) the trustee's deadline for objecting to discharge under § 727, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4004(a); and (2) the trustee's deadline for bringing a motion to dismiss under § 707(b) or (c) for abuse, other than presumed abuse, see Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1017(e).

7.	<u>11-60663</u> -A-7	HUMMER TRANSPORTATION,	MOTION FOR COMPENSATION FOR
	JTW-2	INC.	JANZEN, TAMBERI & WONG,
	JANZEN, TAMBER	I & WONG/MV	ACCOUNTANT(S).
			10-24-14 [<u>315</u>]

Tentative Ruling

Application: Final Compensation and Expense Reimbursement Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required Disposition: Approved Order: Civil minute order

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, *incorporated by* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. *TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

Section 330(a) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services" rendered by a trustee, examiner or professional person employed under § 327 or § 1103 and "reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1). Reasonable compensation is determined by considering all relevant factors. See id. § 330(a)(3).

The court finds that the compensation and expenses sought are reasonable, and the court will approve the application on an interim basis as to the amounts requested.

CIVIL MINUTE ORDER

The court shall issue a civil minute order that conforms substantially to the following form:

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are stated in the civil minutes for the hearing.

The application of Janzen, Tamberi & Wong, an Accountancy Corporation, for allowance of final compensation and reimbursement of expenses has been presented to the court. Having considered the well-pleaded facts of the application, and having entered the default of respondent for failure to appear, timely oppose or otherwise defend in the matter,

IT IS ORDERED that the application is approved on a final basis. The court allows final compensation in the amount of \$3416.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$0.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trustee is authorized without further order of this court to pay from the estate the aggregate amount allowed by this order in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the distribution priorities of § 726.

8.	<u>13-11665</u> -A-7	DENNIS MCGOWAN	MOTION FOR COMPENSATION BY THE
	PLF-6		LAW OFFICE OF FEAR LAW GROUP,
			P.C. FOR PETER L. FEAR,
			TRUSTEE'S ATTORNEY(S).
			10-27-14 [<u>62</u>]
	PETER BUNTING	Atty. for dbt.	

MOTION TO EMPLOY PEARSON REALTY

AS BROKER(S)

No tentative ruling.

9. <u>10-61970</u>-A-7 BRIAN ENNIS
RH-9
JAMES SALVEN/MV
10-21-14 [<u>316</u>]
RILEY WALTER/Atty. for dbt.
ROBERT HAWKINS/Atty. for mv.

Tentative Ruling

Application: Approval of Employment and Approval of Compensation Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required Disposition: Approved in part, denied in part without prejudice Order: Prepared by moving party

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, incorporated by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. *TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

The court may approve employment of professional persons who "do not hold or represent an interest adverse to the estate, and that are disinterested persons." 11 U.S.C. § 327(a); see also id. § 101(14) (defining "disinterested person"). From the factual information provided in the motion and supporting papers, the court will approve the application in part as to the employment of the real estate broker identified in the application.

The application, however, seeks court approval of the terms of compensation of the broker under § 328(a). The compensation

arrangement for which approval is requested is not included in the notice of hearing. Accordingly, the court will deny without prejudice the request for approval of the compensation arrangement and will decide whether to approve the broker's compensation at such time as an application for compensation is filed in the future.

10. <u>12-13170</u>-A-7 AUGUSTINE PENA THA-10 TRUDI MANFREDO/MV MOTION FOR AN ORDER FIXING DEADLINES FOR FILING OF REQUESTS FOR PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIMS, FEES, AND EXPENSES AND DESIGNATING THE FORM AND MANNER OF NOTICE THEREOF 11-4-14 [596]

FRANCISCO ALDANA/Atty. for dbt. THOMAS ARMSTRONG/Atty. for mv.

No tentative ruling.

11. <u>14-13576</u>-A-7 BOBBY PERKINS MOTION TO SELL RHT-2 10-17-14 [<u>30</u>] ROBERT HAWKINS/MV DAVID JENKINS/Atty. for dbt. ROBERT HAWKINS/Atty. for mv.

Tentative Ruling

Motion: Sell Property Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required Disposition: Granted Order: Prepared by moving party

Property: Inventory, fixtures, and equipment located at the premises
of the debtor's former pizza shop
Buyer: Piccolo's Pizza, Inc.
Sale Price: \$5,000
Sale Type: Private sale subject to overbid opportunity

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, *incorporated by* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. *TeleVideo Sys.*, *Inc.* v. *Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Section 363(b)(1) of Title 11 authorizes sales of property of the estate "other than in the ordinary course of business." 11 U.S.C. § 363(b)(1); see also In re Lionel Corp., 722 F.2d 1063, 1071 (2d Cir. 1983) (requiring business justification). The moving party is the Chapter 7 trustee and liquidation of property of the estate is a proper purpose. See 11 U.S.C. § 704(a)(1). As a result, the court will grant the motion. The stay of the order provided by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 6004(h) will be waived.

1. <u>13-15928</u>-A-7 EDWARD/DENIECE MCARTHUR <u>14-1113</u> SALVEN V. AUTEN ET AL TRUDI MANFREDO/Atty. for pl.

Final Ruling

The status conference is continued to January 14, 2015, at 10:00 a.m.

2. <u>08-10861</u>-A-7 JAMES/DAISY CORBETT JES-3

CONTINUED CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE'S FINAL ACCOUNT AND DISTRIBUTION REPORT, OBJECTION TO DEBTOR'S CLAIM OF EXEMPTIONS 10-23-12 [92]

MARK ZIMMERMAN/Atty. for dbt. JAMES SALVEN/Atty. for mv. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

No tentative ruling.

3. <u>08-10861</u>-A-7 JAMES/DAISY CORBETT <u>14-1089</u> CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION V. ED HAYS/Atty. for pl. RESPONSIVE PLEADING CONTINUED STATUS CONFERENCE RE: COMPLAINT 8-25-14 [<u>1</u>]

No tentative ruling.

1. <u>14-15057</u>-A-7 AGGIE BOUSKOS DRJ-1 GSF PROPERTIES INC./MV DAVID JENKINS/Atty. for mv.

Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief Disposition: Denied as moot Order: Civil minute order

The moving party seeks relief from the automatic stay. The dismissal of this case has terminated the automatic stay, § 362(c)(2)(B), so the court is unable to grant effective relief. The motion will be denied as moot.

2. <u>14-12972</u>-A-7 MARK/DARLENE JONES VVF-1 AMERICAN HONDA FINANCE CORPORATION/MV PETER FEAR/Atty. for dbt. VINCENT FROUNJIAN/Atty. for mv. DISCHARGED

Tentative Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required Disposition: Granted in part, denied in part as moot Order: Prepared by moving party

Subject: 2010 Acura MDX

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, *incorporated by* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. *TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

AS TO DEBTOR

The motion will be denied in part as moot to the extent it seeks stay relief as to the debtor. The stay that protects the debtor terminates at the entry of discharge. 11 U.S.C. § 362(c)(2). In this case, discharge has been entered. As a result, the motion is moot as to the debtor.

AS TO ESTATE

Subsection (d)(1) of § 362 of Title 11 provides for relief from stay for "cause, including the lack of adequate protection of an interest in property of such party." 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1). Adequate protection may consist of a lump sum cash payment or periodic cash payments to the entity entitled to adequate protection "to the extent that the stay . . . results in a decrease in the value of such entity's interest in property." 11 U.S.C. § 361(1). "An undersecured

AMENDED MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 11-2-14 [23]

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 10-30-14 [62] creditor is entitled to adequate protection only for the decline in the [collateral's] value after the bankruptcy filing." See Kathleen P. March, Hon. Alan M. Ahart & Janet A. Shapiro, California Practice Guide: Bankruptcy ¶ 8:1065.1 (rev. 2012) (citing United Sav. Ass'n v. Timbers of Inwood Forest Assocs., Ltd., 484 U.S. 365, 370-73 (1988)).

The debtor is obligated to make debt payments to the moving party pursuant to a loan contract that is secured by a security interest in the debtor's vehicle described above. The debtor has defaulted on such loan with the moving party, and 2.5 postpetition payments are past due (see stay relief summary sheet, item no. 8(b)).

The debt secured by the vehicle is \$20,988.13 and the value of the property is only \$21,450. The equity cushion is approximately \$461.87. The moving party contends that its interest in the collateral is not protected by an adequate equity cushion, and that the fair market value of the collateral is declining and payments are not being made to the movant sufficient to protect the movant against such decline.

The moving party's interest in the vehicle is not being adequately protected due to the debtor's ongoing postpetition default. See 11 U.S.C. § 1326(a)(1)(C) (requiring adequate protection payments to commence not later than 30 days after the petition as to any creditor secured by personal property).

Therefore, cause exists to grant relief under § 362(d)(1). The motion will be granted, and the 14-day stay of Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM

AUTOMATIC STAY

10-16-14 [<u>14</u>]

3. <u>14-14275</u>-A-7 JOSE/PATRICIA FLORES RWR-1 WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION/MV RICHARD BAMBL/Atty. for dbt. RUSSELL REYNOLDS/Atty. for mv.

Final Ruling

Motion: Stay Relief Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(1); written opposition required Disposition: Granted Order: Prepared by moving party

Subject: 300 South J Street, Tulare, California

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P.55, *incorporated by* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). Written opposition to this motion was required not less than 14 days before the hearing on this motion. LBR 9014-1(f)(1)(B). None has been filed. The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. *TeleVideo* Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

Section 362(d)(2) authorizes stay relief if the debtor lacks equity in the property and the property is not necessary to an effective reorganization. 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2). Chapter 7 is a mechanism for liquidation, not reorganization, and, therefore, property of the estate is never necessary for reorganization. In re Casgul of Nevada,

Inc., 22 B.R. 65, 66 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1982). In this case, the aggregate amount due all liens exceeds the value of the collateral and the debtor has no equity in the property. The motion will be granted, and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 4001(a)(3) will be waived. No other relief will be awarded.

14-14376-A-7 JOE PEREZ 4. KDG-1 MONICA TRIANO/MV ASHTON DUNN/Atty. for dbt. VINCENT GORSKI/Atty. for mv. RESPONSIVE PLEADING

CONTINUED MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 10-8-14 [19]

No tentative ruling.

10:30 a.m.

1. 14-15019-A-7 LEEANN/ANTHONY GRIEGO PRO SE REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT WITH SANTANDER CONSUMER USA INC. 10-29-14 [19]

No tentative ruling.

2. 14-14285-A-7 ISAAC ARMENDARIZ AND VERA PRO SE REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT WITH FRESNO COUNTY FEDERAL CORDOVA CREDIT UNION 10-27-14 [15] RICK BANKS/Atty. for dbt.

No tentative ruling.

3. 14-14285-A-7 ISAAC ARMENDARIZ AND VERA PRO SE REAFFIRMATION AGREEMENT CORDOVA WITH FIRST CALIFORNIA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION 10-29-14 [17] RICK BANKS/Atty. for dbt.

No tentative ruling.

1. <u>12-17310</u>-A-11 JOHN/GRACE VISSER RAC-46 JOHN VISSER/MV MOTION TO COMPROMISE CONTROVERSY/APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH GOLDEN STATE FEED AND GRAIN 10-27-14 [<u>1030</u>]

RONALD CLIFFORD/Atty. for dbt.

Tentative Ruling

Motion: Approve Compromise or Settlement of Controversy Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required Disposition: Granted Order: Prepared by moving party and the stipulation attached to the motion as Exhibit 1 shall be attached to the proposed order

Parties to Compromise: John L. Visser and Grace A. Visser (the "Vissers"), who are reorganized chapter 11 debtors pursuant to a confirmed chapter 11 plan, and Golden State Feed and Grain ("Golden State")

Dispute Compromised: The validity and amount of Golden State's unsecured claim given erroneous scheduling of such claim in the debtors' bankruptcy and assertion that such claim is owed by an entity other than the Vissers (an entity that is owned by the Vissers)

Summary of Material Terms: The parties agree and stipulate that Golden State is not and never was a creditor in the Vissers' Bankruptcy Case and was not entitled to receive any payments under the Plan, and the stipulation is binding on the parties and their assigns and successors in interest

Unopposed motions are subject to the rules of default. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55, *incorporated by* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7055, 9014(c). The default of the responding party is entered. The court considers the record, accepting well-pleaded facts as true. *TeleVideo Sys., Inc. v. Heidenthal*, 826 F.2d 915, 917-18 (9th Cir. 1987).

In determining whether to approve a compromise under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9019, the court determines whether the compromise was negotiated in good faith and whether the party proposing the compromise reasonably believes that the compromise is the best that can be negotiated under the facts. In re A & C Props., 784 F.2d 1377, 1381 (9th Cir. 1982). More than mere good faith negotiation of a compromise is required. The court must also find that the compromise is fair and equitable. Id. "Fair and equitable" involves a consideration of four factors: (i) the probability of success in the litigation; (ii) the difficulties to be encountered in collection; (iii) the complexity of the litigation, and expense, delay and inconvenience necessarily attendant to litigation; and (iv) the paramount interest of creditors and a proper deference to the creditors' expressed wishes, if any. Id. The party proposing the compromise bears the burden of persuading the court that the compromise is fair and equitable and should be approved. Id.

Based on the motion and supporting papers, the court finds that the compromise is fair and equitable considering the relevant A & CProperties factors. The compromise will be approved. ELAINE NGUYEN/Atty. for dbt.

No tentative ruling.

3. <u>14-14241</u>-A-11 ARTHUR FONTAINE DMG-6 ARTHUR FONTAINE/MV MOTION TO AUTHORIZE USE OF PROPERTY AND/OR MOTION TO ASSUME LEASE OR EXECUTORY CONTRACT 10-29-14 [74]

D. GARDNER/Atty. for dbt.

Tentative Ruling

Motion: Authorizing Use of Property and Authorizing Assumption of Executory Contracts Notice: LBR 9014-1(f)(2); no written opposition required Disposition: Denied without prejudice Order: Civil minute order

"A proceeding to assume, reject, or assign an executory contract or unexpired lease, other than as part of a plan, is governed by Rule 9014." Fed. R. Bank. P. 6006(a). Because a motion to assume, reject, or assign an executory contract or unexpired lease initiates a contested matter, it must be served upon the respondent in the manner provided by Rule 7004. See Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9014(b).

Here, the proof of service does not provide sufficient information to know whether the motion to assume, assign, or reject the executory contracts identified has been served on an agent of respondents, the other parties to such contracts, in accordance with Rule 7004. For example, the other party to the construction contract attached as an exhibit appears to be Dianda Construction, LLC. No evidence is offered in the proof of service that an agent or officer authorized to accept service has received the motion by first class mail. *See* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7004(b)(3). Further, it is unclear whether mailing of the motion to Mark B. Jackson, Esq. constitutes sufficient service under Rule 7004(b)(6).

Any proof of service for a subsequent motion to assume an executory contract with Douglas County, Nevada, shall contain either one of the following affirmative statements: (i) "Counsel for the movant affirms that service has been made in a manner that complies with Rule 7004(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure"; or (ii) "Counsel for the movant affirms that service has been made in a manner that complies with Rule 4(j)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure."

In addition, the notice of the motion contains insufficient information to place creditors on notice of the relief requested, but only if the notice is the only document that was sent to the creditor matrix. The court interprets the proof as stating that the motion and all supporting documents were sent to all creditors, so the insufficient content of the notice may have been harmless. Lastly, the motion improperly joins multiple requests for relief that are sufficiently unrelated to join together. See Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9014(c); see also Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7018, 7020. No joinder request has been made in any event. See Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7021, 9014(c).

4. <u>13-17744</u>-A-11 SREP V, LLC CONTINUED STATUS CONFERENCE RE: VOLUNTARY PETITION 12-6-13 [<u>1</u>] PETER FEAR/Atty. for dbt.

No tentative ruling.

<u>14-10851</u>-A-11 JOHN/BETTY VAN DYK MOTION FOR AUTHORITY TO ASSUME 5. WW-15 OPTION TO PURCHASE REAL JOHN VAN DYK/MV PROPERTY 11-12-14 [<u>273</u>] RILEY WALTER/Atty. for dbt. OST 11/12/14

No tentative ruling.

<u>14-10851</u>-A-11 JOHN/BETTY VAN DYK MOTION TO SELL 6. WW-18 JOHN VAN DYK/MV

11-12-14 [<u>279</u>]

RILEY WALTER/Atty. for dbt. OST 11/12/14

No tentative ruling.